

HOUSE BILL 3925

By Sontany

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 29, Chapter 13, Part 1 and Title 40, Chapter 38, Part 4, to create the "Senator Tommy Burks Victim Assistance Academy".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 29-13-116, is amended by deleting subsection (c)(2) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(2) The Senator Tommy Burks Victim Assistance Academy created pursuant to title 40, chapter 38, part 4 for the purpose of supporting the activities of the Academy. Provided, however, no such grant shall be issued unless the Academy submits to the Tennessee department of finance and administration, office of criminal justice programs a plan specifying the use of the moneys and such plan is approved by the office of criminal justice programs. In determining whether to approve the plan for any given year, the office of criminal justice programs shall ensure the plan specifies that the money shall be used to benefit victims of all types of crime as provided in § 40-38-403. The grant authorized in this subdivision (2) shall not exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) and is subject to authorization contained in the general appropriations act.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, Chapter 38, Part 4, is amended by deleting the part in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

Section 40-38-401.

There is hereby created the Senator Tommy Burks Victim Assistance Academy, hereinafter referred to as the "Academy", to be organized and administered in accordance with the provisions of this part.

Section 40-38-402.

The Academy shall be attached to the Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. All administrative expenses incurred by the Academy shall be paid from funds the Academy or the Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic Sexual Violence receives pursuant to § 40-38-404.

Section 40-38-403.

Notwithstanding its association with the Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, the purpose of the Academy is to improve services to victims of all types of crime by making available a comprehensive, basic-level victim assistance curriculum and training program to victim services providers and allied professionals.

Section 40-38-404.

Funding for the Academy shall come from grants, donations, gifts, and appropriations made for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.